TELEGRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECRET (When Filled In) — CLASSIFICATION — DISSEMINATION CONTROLS — RETAIN OR DESTROY

COUNTRY HAITI

SUBJECT STABILITY OF THE GOVERNMENT

REPORT NO.

DATE DISTR. 23 AUGUST 1962

PRECEDENCE ROUTINE

FILE

DATE OF INFO. AUGUST 1962

REFERENCES

PLACE & DATE ACQ. (20 AUGUST 1962)

APPRAISAL 3

FIELD REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. ON 19 AUG 62 LUCIEN DAUMEC, UNDERSECRETARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND POPULATION, TOLD A GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL REPUTED TO HAVE SPIRITUALISTIC POWERS VALUED BY PRESIDENT FRANCOIS DUVALIER THAT DUVALIER FEARED AN IMMINENT POLITICAL CRISIS BUT WAS CONFIDENT THAT IF HE COULD SURVIVE FOR THE NEXT FEW WEEKS HE WOULD BE OUT OF DANGER FOR THE TIME BEING. DAUMEC SAID THAT DUVALIER WAS ESPECIALLY CONCERNED ABOUT 2 OF HIS POLITICAL OPPONENTS: CLEMENT BARBOT, HIS FORMER PRIVATE SECRETARY, AND ADEUPHIN TELSON, AN OPPOSITION LEADER IN HIDING.

2. BARBOT FLED FROM HIS HOME ABOUT 11 AUG SHORTLY BEFORE TONTONS MACOUTES (MEMBERS OF DUVALIERS PRIVATE POLICE FORCE)

SMITH-BUNDY
DUNCAN
KAYSEN
KILDUFF
PETERSEN
SCHLESINGER
TAYLOR
BELK
FORRESTAL
JOHNSON
KLEIN
KOMER
RASKIN
SAUNDERS

SECRET — CLASSIFICATION — DISSEMINATION CONTROLS

Exempt from automatic downgrading and declassification

STATE	ARMY/ACSI	NAVY	AIR	JCS	SECDEF	NSA	NIC	USIA	OCI	ONE	OCR	ORR	OO	DIA	EXO

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ARRIVED TO ARREST HIM AND WAS BELIEVED BY SUPPORTERS OF TELSON TO BE IN HIDING SOME WHERE IN THE PORT AU PRINCE AREA. THE NATIONAL PALACE HAS BEEN INSPIRING A FALSE RUMOR THAT BARBOT HAD BEEN SHOT AND KILLED BY TONTONS MACOUTES. HOWEVER, THOSE SPREADING THE RUMOR PRIVATELY EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT BARBOT WAS HIDING IN THE HOME OF SOME AMERICAN OFFICIAL.

3. ON 20 AUGUST GASSNER KERSAINT, MINISTER OF LABOR AND SOCIAL WELFARE, IN A PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH ANOTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL ABOUT THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN HAITI EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT A GROUP WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD DEPOSE DUVALIER AND SEIZE POWER. IN ORDER TO FACILITATE SUCH A COUP D ETAT, KERSAINT PROPOSED THAT COLONEL ROGER TRIBIE BE MANEUVERED INTO THE POSITION OF CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMED FORCES.

4. [redacted] DISSEM: STATE, ARMY, CINCARIB, CINCLANT.

END OF MESSAGE